COMMANDERS DIGEST

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TOP-LEVEL DISCUSSION—The American military posture in areas Vice President Spiro T. Agnew will visit during his Asian tour were discussed Dec. 27 in Hawaii by Vice President Agnew and Admiral John S. McCain Jr., commander in chief, Pacific. Topics included the Vietnamization and pacification programs in Vietnam, and military efforts toward nation building elsewhere.

Additional Education Opportunities Forecast

(At the time this article was being prepared, Dr. Nathan Brodsky was acting deputy assistant secretary of defense (Education). That position has since been filled by Dr. George C. S. Benson.)

Educational opportunities for active duty personnel as well as for those leaving the service will gain added importance in the 1970s, predicts Dr. Nathan Brodsky, director for Education Programs and Management Training.

For those on active duty as well as for veterans and retirees, educational opportunities will increase, he said, "as the word spreads in the academic community about the success of servicemen in various educational programs, and as admissions policies and educational programs are designed to more clearly meet the needs of servicemen."

Judging from the amount of correspondence the education office receives from colleges and universities, Dr. Brodsky believes an increasing number of institutions are eager to provide for the individual educational needs of servicemen. He noted the special consideration servicemen receive at Emory University, Atlanta, Ga.

The school allows veterans to enter at times other than the fall quarter, gives them priority on financial aid, and allows certain admission requirements to be completed after a veteran has begun study.

The school also cuts red tape to a min-

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CINCPAC

Assesses Progress Of Vietnamization As 'On Schedule'

The Vietnamization and pacification programs underway in the Republic of Vietnam are "sound and proceeding on schedule," according to Admiral John S. McCain Jr., commander in chief, Pacific.

Following a late December personal tour of Vietnam, Adm. McCain also noted that under President Nixon's plan and agreement with President Nguyen Van Thieu to replace U.S. combat forces with Vietnamese troops, Phase II of the redeployment of Americans was completed on the target date of Dec. 15, 1969.

Adm. McCain said he had talked to high government officials of the Republic of Vietnam, U.S. Government, and Army General Creighton W. Abrams, COMUSMACV.

"Our strength in Vietnam today is down to the level of mid-November two years ago, and planning on the redeployment of the 50,000 spaces in Phase III is now aimed at the new authorized strength of 434,000," the admiral said.

(See Related Story on Page 3)

He stated that U.S. casualties are relatively lower but, in a more somber tone, noted that the enemy's input of troops into the pipeline from North Vietnam has been increasing in the past few weeks. "It is still too early to determine his intentions with regard to conducting a large scale offensive in the Tet time frame; however, the enemy still maintains the capability to conduct offensive operations. It remains a matter

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Assesses Progress Of Vietnamization As 'On Schedule'

(Continued from Page 1)

of watching the level of this infiltration which is relatively low.

"I think it is of paramount importance," he continued, "to point out that even while U.S. forces were leaving the Delta and the Republic of Vietnam, the enemy was sending North Vietnamese regulars into the Delta for the first time in the history of the war. There could be no firmer indication of Hanoi's intentions. They are aware of the improvement in the Republic of Vietnam armed forces and have witnessed it on the battlefield and they are aware of the successes of the pacification program. Two areas where I was particularly impressed on this visit were the Delta and the Central Highlands."

Elsewhere on the Delta, he said, the ARVN 21st Division, continuing operations in the once seldom penetrated U Minh Forest, have been constantly hitting the 273rd VC Regiment, which is now largely filled out with NVA soldiers and officers. "This enemy unit has not been able to achieve its objective since it was sent down into the Delta from III Corps."

Adm. McCain stressed, "The Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam are better trained and better equipped than they have ever been before, and they are now conducting more combat and support missions, than they have ever done before. . . ."

AVIATION ENTHUSIASTS—Among those present at Kill Devil Hill, N.C., near Kitty Hawk, to celebrate the 66th anniversary of powered flight Dec. 17 were (front row, right to left) Woody Ishmael, aviation artist; Maj. Gen. Nils O. Ohman, commander, Headquarters Command USAF; Brig. Gen. Richard A. Knobloch, commander, 1st Composite Wing, Andrews AFB, Md., and Gen. Ira C. Eaker (USAF Ret.) pilot of the 1929 "Question Mark" endurance flight and currently a director of the National Aeronautic Association.

THE TEST THAT SUCCEEDED—The Defense Printing Service was chartered under the Navy Industrial Fund on Nov. 1, 1949. It was the beginning of a test of a new method of financing within the Department of Defense. Today its annual dollar volume income from work has grown to about $15 million. To mark the occasion, officials met to commemorate the success of the self-supporting organization that has proved the validity of the industrial fund concept through the years. Among the guests, in left photo, were (left to right) Robert F. Haynes, director of the Planning and Development Div., Hqs., Navy Publications and Printing Service; and Staff Director of the Joint Committee on Printing Jack Haley. At right A. N. Spence, director of the Defense Printing Service and Navy Publications and Printing Service (left), talks with David O. Cooke, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Administration). The guest of honor was Wilfred J. McNeil, assistant secretary of defense (Comptroller) in 1949.

Gen. Haines Sees ARVN Units Gaining Confidence

The Army's top commander in the Pacific area is convinced that the United States' first priority is to help the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam take over the primary responsibilities of combat operations.

General Ralph E. Haines Jr., commander-in-chief, U.S. Army, Pacific, also reports the South Vietnamese have expressed "an earnest desire" to assume the full burden as soon as possible.

Speaking to members of the Pike's Peak Association in Colorado Springs, Colo., Gen. Haines said, "they are responding well to the increased emphasis placed on their role in the war.

"The Army of the Republic of Vietnam, or the ARVN, whose units I have visited many times is gaining confidence, experience, and professionalism . . ."

He noted that to place the U.S. commitment in Vietnam in the proper perspective there should be an appreciation for the general conditions throughout the region.

"Several years ago," he said, "the Communists boldly announced that they intended to expand their influence in Asia and ultimately throughout the world. Communist China's Mao Tse-Tung, North Vietnam's General Giap, and North Korea's Kim Il Sung all have stated and restated this intent. We have no reason to doubt their sincerity, furthermore, the Soviet Union has declared its full support for similar objectives.

GEN. HAINES

"Vietnam is the test case—the springboard for the Communist move on Southeast Asia. We would be making a serious error if we ignored the broader implications of the Communist movement and focused our attention on Vietnam alone. In the shadow of the furor in the United States over our commitment there, the Communists are moving ahead with their plan to subvert all of Southeast Asia.

"In accordance with their new policy, the Communists have launched or abetted insurgencies in Cambodia, Thailand, Burma, Malaysia, and the Philippines.

"In Laos, Vietnam's neighbor, open warfare with the Communists now rages.

"In view of the very tense situation throughout Southeast Asia, I cannot believe that those who insist we abandon our efforts in Vietnam have a clear understanding of the ramifications of such a move. Prince Souvanna Phouma, prime minister of Laos, viewed the situation in these words: 'Should South Vietnam become Communist . . . it would be difficult for Laos to exist . . . we could do nothing but pack our bags and leave' . . ."

Gen. Haines acknowledged that "some observers" had forecast that the Communists would quickly overrun positions or camps which were turned over to the Vietnamese when U.S. forces redeployed. "But this prediction," he said, "has not come true."

Behind the shooting war, Gen. Haines sees Vietnamization making steady progress in the less spectacular social, economic, and political areas—which, he says, will exert "a far greater impact on the outcome of the conflict and its aftermath than actual combat operations."

Gen. Haines had nothing but praise for American servicemen "who are thousands of miles from home fighting to help contain Asian Communism. These men are doing a splendid job in Vietnam.

"The American soldier today is smarter, more perceptive, more dedicated, and physically more resilient than his predecessors of other years and other wars."

NEW COMMANDER—Rear Admiral Robert E. Adamson Jr., has assumed command of the U.S. Naval Support Activity at DaNang, Republic of Vietnam. He replaced Rear Admiral Emmett P. Bonner, who was assigned to Washington. The NSA at DaNang is the Navy's largest overseas shore command.

COMMANDERS DIGEST

THIS PUBLICATION CONTAINS OFFICIAL INFORMATION, NEWS AND POLICY, DIRECT FROM WASHINGTON AUTHORIZED SOURCES.

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GIVEN AWARD—Air Force Chaplain (Major General) Edwin R. Chess, chairman of the Armed Forces Chaplains Board, was presented the 1969 Humanitarian Award of the Chapel of the Four Chaplains, Dec. 7. The award was made in Philadelphia and is presented annually "to a distinguished person whose life is devoted to public Service."

Interpreting the Kremlin's Intentions

RED HAWKS AND DOVES

Under Secretary of State Elliot L. Richardson recently analyzed the potential for constructive Soviet-American relations, pointing out that our estimate of this potential "is central to our entire international posture."

This may well be the reason, he said, why the most quoted and most interpreted of all of President Nixon's statements since he took office has been the Inaugural Address passage in which the President stated: "After a period of confrontation we are entering an era of negotiation."

Below are excerpts from Under Secretary Richardson's address of Nov. 20 in which he discusses Soviet amenability to an era of negotiation.

Under Secretary of State Elliot L. Richardson

Because our estimate of the potential for constructive relations with the Soviet Union is central to our entire international posture, any change in our assessment of this potential is bound to have wide significance.

As we seek to exploit as fully as we can any opening for meaningful negotiation, we must at the same time take advantage of opportunities to probe carefully and meticulously for fresh evidence indicating whether or not we can safely moderate our previous fears and doubts about Soviet intentions.

In viewing the Soviet government today some are naturally more skeptical of evidence of its amenability to an era of negotiation than others. A wide shading of interpretation is possible. At the two poles, and perhaps somewhat overstated and oversimplified, the interpretations run something like this:

'Interpretation One hypothesizes that basic Soviet attitudes are little changed and that the threat to our security is not significantly diminished.'

Two Interpretations

Interpretation One hypothesizes that basic Soviet attitudes are little changed and that the threat to our security is not significantly diminished. Those who propound this viewpoint to the continuing and accelerating build-up of Soviet military strength, to the spread of Soviet power into the Mediterranean and Middle East, to the invasion of Czechoslovakia and subversion of its government, to Soviet support of Hanoi in its evident desire to take over South Vietnam.

They see the continuation of Stalinist harassment and persecution of Soviet writers and intellectuals, the political trials and suppression of dissent, as evidence of a regime which is inherently authoritarian and aggressive, no matter what its ideological cast. They believe that basic to this authoritarianism is a fear of contamination by progressive tendencies both within the Soviet Union itself and in neighboring countries and a consequent need to extinguish such tendencies whenever they emerge. And they fear that a leadership basically isolated from public response is more liable to follow dangerous and adventuristic policies.

This interpretation also urges us to take Soviet ideological pronouncements at face value and not dismiss them as ritualistic Marxist rhetoric. It would take, for example, the statement adopted on June 17 of this year by the International Conference of Communist and Workers' Parties, which met in Moscow under the auspices of the Soviet Communist Party, as indicating that Soviet intentions are as inimical as ever.

Among other things, that long and turgid document said:

"To curb the aggressors and liberate mankind from imperialism is the mission of the working class, of all the anti-imperialist forces fighting for peace, democracy, national independence, and socialism."

Interpretation Two, on the other hand, would read such polemics only as window dressing intended to proclaim Marxist-Leninist legitimacy. According to this view, actual Soviet policies bear little resemblance to official ideology. Those who espouse this interpretation see Soviet policies as having moderated greatly since the death of Stalin and believe the Soviets now display a genuine willingness to reach accommodations with us on issues on which we have common or parallel interests.

The Soviet Union, they feel, no longer pursues expansionist ambitions; on the contrary, its posture appears primarily oriented toward protecting the security of the motherland. Soviet military strength is maintained at least partially in response to the military strength of the U.S. and our alliances.

'The truth, of course, may simply be that both portraits of the Soviet Union are facets of the same reality, seen through different eyes.'

Those who put this interpretation forward think the Soviet government, if only by necessity, is willing to allow a certain diversity among the countries close to its border. Though it is not a democracy, they believe it is still necessary for it to be responsive to the popular will of its people and that this fact is causing it to moderate its policies. For this reason, too, the Soviet government is held to be preoccupied with domestic affairs—with problems of agricultural organization and growing consumer demands.

Soviet society is pictured as conservative and essentially bourgeois in outlook, with all the cultural and artistic adventurism of George G. Babbitt. The ruling party bureaucracy, as seen by this interpretation, is like all entrenched bureaucracies, cautious, unimaginative, and a little dull, and the Soviet leadership, since it is largely a product of the bureaucracy, is similarly gray, cautious, and devoted to the status quo.

In sum, this view holds that as practical needs have become more insistent, Communist ideological fervor has waned. The Soviet leadership is viewed, like Candide, as increasingly content to cultivate its own garden.

Soviet Hawks and Doves

The truth, of course, may simply be that both portraits of of the Soviet Union are facets of the same reality, seen through different eyes. On the face of things, indeed, neither wholly excludes the other: No government, and certainly no government in a nation as large as the Soviet Union, can be entirely monolithic—monolithic, that is, in the sense of being free from divergent and competing interests, forces, or views.

Thus, when we speak of "Soviet intentions," we obviously do not mean to imply that these remain static. The USSR, we know, has its own hawks and doves, its hard-liners and soft-liners. It has its scientists and intellectuals who are quietly pressing for more freedom, as well as its Stalinists who favor greater repression, and through the shifting and coming to influence of different elements and personalities is forged the amalgam of its policies and intentions.

For us, of course, the importance of trends in Soviet life and government lies in their significance for Soviet attitudes and intentions toward the outside world. And on this score new and important evidence can be obtained through negotiations whose objective is the concrete resolution of those specific issues which continue to embody the risk of confrontation or to enhance the danger of its consequences.

Such negotiations, whatever their outcome, can thus serve the wider purpose of testing the prospects for a more stable and peaceful world. Progress will come only through the concrete resolution of specific issues which continue to disturb international tranquility.

Accent on the Future

While we cannot—until new evidence is upon us—allow ourselves to forget past manifestations of Soviet aggressiveness, we are eager to put the accent on the future rather than the past, to stress our joint opportunities rather than our old divisions. "I believe we must take risks for peace," President Nixon has said, "but calculated risks, not foolish risks."

We seek . . . a structure of world order based on the independence and equality of states; we do not seek ideological domination or confrontation. We care less about the ordering of a nation's economy or even its political structure than we do about the evidence it presents to us about its willingness to live in peace with its neighbors.

Let me briefly outline some of the areas and issues in which progress can be made.

First, there is Vietnam . . . there is Laos . . . the Middle East, on which we have been engaged in intensive talks with the Soviets, is another area where their actions will provide important indices of their intentions. . . . Soviet attitudes on the development of firmer foundations for peace and stability in Europe will prove another key to their basic willingness to reduce tensions. . . . An even more important opportunity for East-West negotiation is the subject of mutual and balanced force reductions.

These are only some of the areas and issues on which tensions can be lowered—though perhaps they are the most important. Each is a part of an interrelated whole and each constitutes a test—for both the U.S. and the USSR. Can we reach agreements which will contribute to the achievement of a lasting peace? We are determined to seek the answers, cautiously, but also with patience and determination.

After all, why should we not be able to settle the disputes that divide us? There are no quarrels of the traditional sort between us, no disputes over territory, no competition for trade. There is no historic enmity between our peoples.

The aims and ambitions of our peoples seem, in fact very similar—to live and prosper, to educate our children, to build our communities free of the threat of war and destruction.

Additional Education Opportunities Forecast for Servicemen in 1970s

(Continued from Page 1)

imum so veterans may make the transition from service to school as early as possible.

"The announced flexible policies of Emory University concerning the admission of veterans is very encouraging," Dr. Brodsky said. "We hope that as the word spreads among the universities about policies such as Emory has established, others will be encouraged to take similar steps."

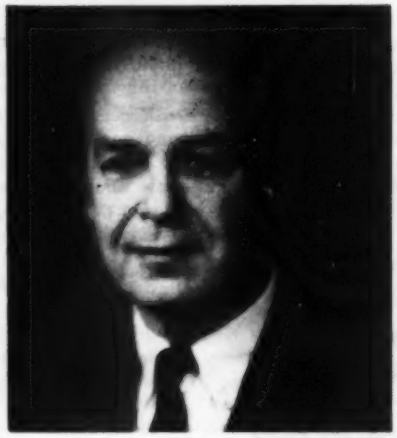
Dr. Brodsky also cites a survey conducted this summer by the Commission on Accreditation of Service Experiences as evidence colleges and universities are providing recognition of educational experiences while in the service. (See chart on next page.)

Questionnaires were sent to 2,213 institutions of higher learning. A total of 1,968 colleges and universities responded —1,260 were senior colleges and 708 were junior or community colleges.

Nearly 91 per cent of institutions with established policies accept satisfactory GED test scores as evidence of ability to undertake college work in determining admission of adults who have not graduated from high school. The survey also reveals that 80 per cent of institutions with established policies permit the granting of credit for successful completion of United States Armed Forces Institute courses outlined in Bulletin 10, of the Commission, "Opportunities for Educational and Vocational Advancement," and approximately 73 per cent of institutions with established policies grant credit to veteran students for formal service school training programs on the basis of evaluations made by the Commission on Accreditation, as listed in the 1968 edition of "A Guide To The Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services."

"From these percentages," Dr. Brodsky said, "we can see that a military man today faces a better chance of receiving recognition for his educational experiences in the service than did the World War II or Korea serviceman."

Colleges and universities that have not established policies concerning recognition for educational experiences while in the service are being encouraged to establish policies which give recognition to the merit of educational experiences while in the service, according to Dr. Brodsky.



DR. BRODSKY

He said DoD is asking the Commission and the American Council on Education to work with the schools to "provide evidence of the merits and credibility of service programs so that suitable recognition may be given to them."

The education office also would like colleges and universities to establish more flexible admission policies and greater counseling services to assist in placing servicemen in programs most suitable to their needs, abilities and desires.

"A Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services" is published by the Commission and is funded by the Department of Defense and the Veterans Administration. Copies are furnished to each military department, VA field offices and all accredited four-year, and community or junior colleges. The 1968 Guide is the third edition of the publication, which was first issued in 1946.

The Commission is supported by the Department of Defense and meets semiannually. Membership is composed of educators picked by the American Council on Education. The Commission makes recommendations to civilian institutions, or prospective employers, on the credit they think graduates of formal military schools and courses, and USAFI courses should receive in terms of normal college credit hours.

This summer, the Commission launched another study to determine among other things, the extent to which individuals who are admitted to college with a high school GED certificate were able to compete with students who entered college with a high school diploma, and the use of the examinations of the College Level Examination Program (CLEP) as a basis for granting advanced standing and credit. The study is sponsored by the American Council on Education and the College Entrance Examination Board and will be conducted by the Educational Testing Service.

Results of the study will not be known until next year, but Army Col. Alvin C. Jensen, assistant for Adult Education, says informal reports received by the education office indicate servicemen admitted with GED certificates, "for the most part, are excelling.

"We suspect that maturity which has taken place in the military, and the broadening of a serviceman's background, has contributed strongly to their ability to do so well," Col. Jensen added.

Dr. Brodsky expects civilian-type education will have a growing role in military life:

"The services recognize education as a continuing process. The increasing demands in all of the services for professional skills and know-how, lead to increasing educational needs within the services. Tuition assistance programs and the availability of the GI Bill while in the service are incentives for continuing education. At the same time, opportunities to pursue undergraduate and graduate degrees on duty time, while drawing full pay and allowances, continue to increase."

Dr. Brodsky feels commanders should seek ways of creating a favorable environment for continuing education. "They should become thoroughly familiar with the assistance which is available to them to provide a wide range of educational opportunities for their personnel."

This should include, Dr. Brodsky adds, insuring that education officers provide a "dynamic counseling and educational program" and that all personnel are made aware of the programs and are encouraged to participate.

SURVEY CONDUCTED BY COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION OF SERVICE EXPERIENCES

	"Yes"	"No"	"No policy established"
	Senior/Junior	Senior/Junior	Senior/Junior
Permits credit for formal service school courses:	723/374	259/148	277/187
Permits credit for successful completion of USAFI courses:	852/434	199/120	209/154
Permits admission based on GED test scores:	990/653	141/28	129/29

Questionnaires mailed to 2,213 senior and junior colleges, with 1,968 completed and returned.
Of those 1,260 were from senior colleges and universities with 708 from junior or community colleges.

Dr. Brodsky Gives Status Report on Overseas Dependents Schools

The Defense Department's Overseas Dependent School Program has been in operation for 23 years and today spans three continents with an enrollment of 191,583 students.

Those facts were reported to the House Subcommittee on Appropriations recently by Dr. Nathan Brodsky, then acting deputy assistant secretary of defense for Education.

In his statement Dr. Brodsky, who now has the title of director for Education Programs and Management Training, also revealed that today there are more than 8,000 American teachers and other professional personnel staffing 308 schools, in 192 different locations in 28 countries.

He also said that many steps have been taken to increase the effectiveness of overseas dependents schools during the last several years and said these include:

1—Establishment of kindergarten and school health programs.

2—Issuance of standards for the employment of school personnel.

3—Development of unified accounting procedures for reporting expenditures.

4—Issuance of a standard high school graduation diploma.

5—Establishment of eligibility criteria for admissions to DOD-operated schools.

6—Issuance of standards for fire safety.

7—Issuance of instructions for conducting an inter-area transfer program for professional school personnel.

8—Issuance of staffing and program guidance on a yearly basis.

9—Centralized recruitment of professional personnel.

10—Assigning to the military departments responsibility for the administration and operation of the school program.

Dr. Brodsky said his office was continually working with the military departments to develop a balanced educational program for the overseas dependents schools. As a result, he said, these criteria provide the following:

1—The full spectrum of professional and clerical school personnel such as classroom teachers, special subject matter teachers, librarians and library clerks, audiovisual specialists, school administrators and school clerical personnel.

2—Purchasing of textbooks and library books to establish minimum basic collections.

3—Budgeting for educational innovation and research similar to title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended.

Following are additional excerpts from Dr. Brodsky's statement:

Included in the DOD budget is $3.7 million to provide for a teacher salary increase which was developed according to the provisions of Public Law 89-391.

Since the enactment of Public Law 86-91, the Department of Defense has recognized two years of prior teaching experience in determining the salary rate for a newly employed teacher. We have not interpreted the broad language of the act as specifically requiring greater recognition.

The overseas teacher organizations, such as the Overseas Education Association and the Overseas Federation of Teachers, as well as some members of Congress, have asked us to consider recognition of experience beyond the present two years. Thus, we are reexamining our practice in this regard, in terms of requirement, cost and desirability.

Several years ago we inaugurated a program to modernize textbooks and teaching materials. In this fiscal year and the coming fiscal year we are making every effort to improve our textbook situation. We estimate that approximately 75 per cent of the textbooks now being used in overseas dependent schools were published within the last five years.

The current enrollment estimate for Fiscal Year 1970 is 191,583, which includes approximately 19,000 kindergarten students, and represents an increase of 9,900 students over our estimated Fiscal Year 1969 level. Due to this student increase the DOD budget includes $2.9 million for additional staff.

We have planned a model schools program in the European area beginning in Fiscal Year 1970 to improve the individualized instruction and teacher preparation. As the European area program is put into action and is evaluated, positive results will be extended to the Atlantic and Pacific areas.

Admiral Moorer Compares U.S.-Soviet Naval Forces

U.S. newspapers daily report the movement of Soviet ships throughout the world. One such instance made headlines a few months ago when several Soviet vessels completed a rendevous in the Gulf of Mexico; other stories tell of Soviet naval expansion in the Mediterranean, and still others report USSR naval forces in the Indian Ocean.

Those are but a few of the clues that spell Soviet maritime expansion throughout the world, but the Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Thomas H. Moorer explained the situation to the House Committee on Appropriations in even more forceful terms. Following are excerpts from his testimony released by the committee in December.

"Today we are confronted by a formidable and expanding threat to our supremacy at sea—not only on the high seas but also in our own back yard. We cannot afford to ignore the implications of this threat for the years ahead. Nevertheless, I am personally disturbed at the number of influential citizens who seemingly do not appreciate the implications of the Soviet move to sea with modern ships and modern equipment. It becomes a matter of special concern in the light of our traditional maritime orientation and in fact, of our dependence on the freedom of the high seas.

"The naval forces of the Soviet Union are today second in size only to those of the United States and include the world's largest submarine force. Of particular interest and concern is the consistent qualitative improvement in both submarines and surface ships.

"Providing support to deployed Soviet naval forces and to the national economy is the Soviet merchant marine which has risen from a position in 1958 of 12th in the world in tonnage to 7th in 1968. During the same period the United States dropped from 4th to 5th. At this rate, the Soviet merchant marine could surpass that of the United States in less than five years.

"The Soviets also operate a large fleet of intelligence collection and oceanographic research ships and the world's largest high seas fishing fleet. They are using all these assets to advance their national interests in the international arena. It is apparent that Soviet strategists appreciate the military, political and economic aspects of seapower in all its ramifications.

Soviet Navy ship Moskva at anchor in the Mediterranean Sea. (U.S. Navy Photo)

"During 1968 and 1969, the Soviets have deployed naval forces to the Indian Ocean, indicative of their interest in these waters and the bordering areas, and a deployment is continuing at the present time.

"As you know, this summer the Soviets deployed surface combatant ships and submarines into the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico and thence to West African waters and the port of Conakry, Guinea. These extended deployments, far from previously normal Soviet operating areas, illustrate the increasing Soviet capability and willingness to project their seapower throughout the world as an instrument of foreign policy.

"The Soviets' continuous and expanding presence in the Mediterranean is an obvious move to enhance their prestige and influence in that area. Thus, although the Soviet Mediterranean Squadron is inferior in total striking power and versatility to today's Sixth Fleet, its presence has had a marked political impact on some Mediterranean coastal nations and it poses a threat to the southern flank of NATO. The Soviet intention to remain permanently in the Mediterranean is manifested by their increasing use of Arab ports for replenishment and repairs.

"It is also significant that in recent weeks there have been greater numbers of Soviet ships deployed out of area than ever before. We simply must not ignore this trend.

"To sum up this threat, let me say that the Soviets are on the move so far as seapower is concerned. They are aggressive, persistent, and competent. They back up words with deeds. . . . With this background of Soviet intentions, our concern over whether we can afford to meet the threat must at the same time recognize that we cannot afford not to meet it."

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